

SECTION: G-7

TITLE: Medical Monitoring for Incident Rehabilitation

REVISED: November 2, 2010

Any licensed EMS provider in Ada County may be dispatched to the scene of a fire-related incident (structure fire, wildland fire operation, training operation or other special operations) and be assigned the task of medical monitoring in a Rehabilitation Group as part of the Incident Command structure. This protocol is intended to meet the NFPA 1584 guideline as it pertains to medical monitoring.

Medical Evaluation and Assistance

1. **Medical monitoring officer** – Must be staffed by a licensed EMS provider at the EMT level or higher. An ALS trained person should be considered for this role whenever possible. The medical monitoring officer shall evaluate:

- **Respiratory Rate**
- **Heart Rate**
- **Blood Pressure**
- **Tympanic Temperature**
- **Pulse Oximetry**
- **Carbon Monoxide Oximetry**

After the medical evaluation, the medical monitoring officer will determine a proper disposition:

- **Return to duty**
- **Continued rehabilitation**
- **Medical Assistance and transport to medical facility**

Continued rehabilitation should consist of additional monitoring of vital signs, providing rest, providing fluids and food (if available). Medical assistance given to personnel whose signs and/or symptoms indicate a medical problem or traumatic injury should be provided in accordance with local medical control procedures and notification to the Incident Commander shall take place.

2. **Medical Criteria** - Below is a list of objective measurements that anyone entering medical monitoring via the rehabilitation group must meet before being released by the medical monitoring officer:

- **Respiratory Rate of 12-20 bpm**
- **Heart Rate not to exceed 100 bpm**
- **Systolic Blood Pressure of less than 160 and a diastolic blood pressure of less than 100**

- **Tympanic Temperature no higher than 100.6 degrees Fahrenheit**
- **Pulse Oximeter reading of 95% or greater**
- **Carbon Monoxide oximeter reading of less than 5%**

All objective criteria must be met before being released from rehab. If the individual fails to meet one or more of the criteria listed above, he/she will remain under the care of the medical monitoring officer until he/she meets the established criteria. In addition to this, the individual's subjective feelings must be taken into account. Any individual that does not feel fit to return to an assignment will be given additional time.

If at the end of a 1 hour period in the medical monitoring unit the individual is still unable to meet all of the objective criteria, the individual will be required to be evaluated by a physician and obtain a medical release prior to returning to full duty.

- 3. Documentation** - All medical monitoring evaluations shall be recorded on the Emergency Incident Medical Monitoring form. (See Appendix BB) These forms will be submitted to the Incident Commander after the incident, which will then be reviewed and attached to the incident report.

G. Accountability

Personnel reporting to the Rehabilitation Group shall enter as crews and present themselves to the medical monitoring officer. Members shall exit as crews when possible. If any member is detained in Rehabilitation for evaluation or medical treatment, the Rehabilitation Group Leader shall notify that member's superior officer. The remaining members shall be available in the staging area.

The Rehab Group Leader or his/her designee shall document:

- Crew designation
- Crew names
- Amount of fluid and food ingested
- Vital signs (RR, HR, BP, Temp, Oxygen Sat, Carbon Monoxide %)
- Associated problems
- Times of entry to and exit from the Rehabilitation Area

Individuals shall not leave the Rehabilitation Area until authorized to do so by the Rehab Group Leader.